

Spouses' flight a hit



Michelle Craven, wife of Tech. Sgt. Morris Craven, C-130 loadmaster, boards the aircraft before a C-130 flight here Saturday. The 317th Airlift Group arranged the flight for the 317th AG spouses to experience firsthand what their spouses jobs involved.

317th Airlift Group hosts family day, includes C-130 orientation flight for spouses

By Airman 1st Class Carolyn Viss
7th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Nervous excitement was in the air – kids were running and playing; pilots, navigators, crew chiefs and loadmasters were ready in their “green bags”; and wives were



Emanuelle Neumann, wife of a French exchange C-130 pilot Capt. Laurent Neumann, enjoys the view from the aircraft during the orientation flight Saturday.

exchanging glances of timid anticipation. The spouses of the 317th Airlift Group servicemembers were just about to take a ride in a Dyess C-130, to try to get a glimpse of what their spouses or significant others go through as part of the group's high-operations tempo. Lieutenant Col. Lee Flint, 39th Airlift Squadron commander, explained why the 317th thought hosting this event was so important. “Air Force Instruction 11-401 authorizes us to fly spouse-familiarization sorties in order to ‘enhance understanding of the military members’ role and contribution to the Air Force mission,” Colonel Flint said. “That really sums up the program. We offer a glimpse of flight operations to give the spouses an idea of what it's like, how rigorous it is, and why it's important.” He spoke to the group before the flight, addressing the spouses, who he said are “critical parts” of the group's mission. “Your support makes us able to do what

we do,” he said, encapsulating the reason for the day's activities. “You're why we do what we do. You're the first person we think about when we think about national defense. Thank you for putting up with our schedule and supporting us the way you do.” As the 88 participants broke into small groups to fly in shifts, the loadmasters and crew chiefs briefed the crowd on airsickness and the importance of wearing earplugs. “And if you didn't eat breakfast, you might want to grab a donut or something,” Colonel Flint said. “But you might not want to drink orange juice if you want to avoid heartburn,” he added with a laugh. He seemed to be speaking from experience. The hallway was soon bustling as everyone prepared to head outside. A few of the spouses seemed nervous to cross the flight line's entry control point. They glanced around, looking to see

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Dyess celebrates 45 years with McMurry University

By Airman 1st Class Carolyn Viss
7th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Dyess celebrated 45 years of partnership with McMurry University by holding a celebration at the Heritage Club here Jan. 20.

Doctor John Russell, president of McMurry University, attended the event along with Norm Archibald, mayor of Abilene, Dr. Cristen Carson, base education officer, and more than 150 guests from Dyess and the community.

Colonel Garrett Harencak, 7th Bomb Wing commander, hosted a press conference with local media before the event, allowing McMurry leadership to answer questions regarding the university's partnership with Dyess and the scholarships and opportunities it offers to Airmen.

“McMurry University has done a superb job of supporting Dyess,” Colonel Harencak said. “We are stronger, more lethal, and better defenders of our great nation (because of them).” He went on to boast of the scholarship McMurry offers for Dyess members, which offsets the cost of private education. Air Force tuition assistance has a cap that covers 75 percent of McMurry's costs, but McMurry offers to pay the remainder of their fees for any Airman who maintains a 2.0 grade point average or higher.

“(This is) one more manifestation of the tremendous support we receive from Abilene,” Colonel Harencak said. “McMurry goes above and beyond and includes Dyess in extra-curricular activities as well.”

He referred specifically to McMurry's football team, which three active-duty Airmen played on last year.

“I've never seen a college offer that opportunity anywhere in the world,” Colonel Harencak said. “That aspect is unique to Dyess.”

Doctor Russell, who was once an active-duty Air Force servicemember, said they have as much support from Dyess as they give to Dyess.

“(Partnering with Dyess) has created a rich learning environment for the entire student body,” he said. “(We have) a great relationship; it works for both of us.”

“Besides,” he added, “Dyess Airmen are good students to have – they do their homework, read the material, and set the curves.”

McMurry has proven that they accommodate the Air Force by offering flexible degree programs. If they don't offer

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Security forces in combat

By Col. Brad Spacy
Security Forces and Force Protection Headquarters

WASHINGTON – In the early morning hours on Jan. 1, 2005, the first combat patrols of Operation Desert Safeside left the northern perimeter of Balad Air Base, Iraq, and began an aggressive 60-day combat operation to kill or capture insurgents attacking the air base. This was a historic mission for Air Force security forces. It was bold, it put Airmen at risk, and the stakes were high. Leadership knew the results of Operations Desert Safeside would have far-reaching implications on the future of Air Force security forces as a credible ground combat force.

Operation Desert Safeside was carried out by the men and women of Task Force 1041. Specially built around a squadron of the 820th Security Forces Group, TF 1041 was led by a young security forces lieutenant colonel named Chris Bargery, chosen for his reputation as an innovative combat leader. TF 1041's designated area of operations was one of the most violent areas in the region, roughly 10 kilometers wide and 6 deep, from the Balad perimeter fence to the Tigris River.

Throughout January and February 2005, Colonel Bargery led the men and women of TF 1041 in more than 500 combat missions that included raids, ambushes and sniper operations aimed at taking back the initiative enjoyed by the enemy for more than two years.

Task Force 1041 did not disappoint. In just 60 days, they captured 17 high value targets, eight major weapons caches, 98 other insurgents and reduced enemy attacks from their area of operations to nearly zero. And although TF 1041 endured numerous firefighters, improvised explosive devices and indirect fire attacks, they sustained no injuries. Operation Desert Safeside was by all accounts an overwhelming success.

However, TF 1041's success on the battlefield had a larger effect than its immediate impact on the areas around Balad. TF 1041 also showed the world that Air Force security forces are an exceptionally capable ground combat force. This is a key point as security forces transform from a Cold War industrial security force to a relevant ground combat force for the joint warfight in the 21st Century.

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Honorary commander of 28th BS goes to Washington

By 1st Lt. Aaron Hochman-Zimmerman
7th Bomb Wing Protocol

Jay Gibson, 28th Bomb Squadron honorary commander and managing director of a local consulting firm, has been appointed deputy undersecretary of defense (management reform), a new Pentagon position.

The new post will be involved in ongoing efforts to improve business practices within the Department of Defense.

“I'm honored and flattered and ready to serve,” Mr. Gibson said.

Mr. Gibson will step down as 28th BS honorary commander today and will soon move his wife and two sons to the nation's capitol to begin his new job.

“Being involved with the 28th as an honorary commander has been one of the real joys of my life,” Mr. Gibson said. “It's been a real honor. (My wife and I) have been included and treated as part of the Mohawk family.”

Mr. Gibson said his relationship with Dyess has lead to experiences and



Jay Gibson

acquaintances which broadened his understanding of the military.

“Through my involvement, I had the ability to go beyond Dyess,” he said. “I had

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CMYK

Action Line

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696-3355 or e-mail action@dyess.af.mil

The Action Line provides a direct line of communication between Col. Garrett Harencak, 7th Bomb Wing commander, and the people of Dyess. People should always use their chain of command or contact the agency involved first. However, if the problem still can not be resolved, call 696-3355 or e-mail action@dyess.af.mil. Leaving your name and phone number ensures a personal reply by phone. The Global Warrior staff reserves the right to edit all Action Lines before publication. Not all Action Lines will be published.

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Nurturing the future, grooming Airmen for success

Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. James B. Erwin
407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

ALI BASE, Iraq (AFPN) — What does taking care of your troops mean to you? Does it mean giving in to every want, concern or need?

To me, it means to give the troop everything he or she needs to be successful. After all, they are the Airmen who will replace today's leaders, and we owe it to them to make sure they are prepared. Troops need education, discipline, opportunities and role models.

Education is important to our young and upcoming Airmen. In some ways, they are already smarter than we are. Don't believe me? Grab a young Airman and a VCR, IPOD and computer and find out who gets at least two out of three working first.

Our Airmen need mentors to be competent and confident in their duties and the lifestyle of the Air Force. The philosophy I have been brought up with is to get qualified and/or certified on your duties first and then knock out your career development courses. These simple actions make new Airmen a valuable member of the team — a member who can be relied on to complete any task or assignment they are given.

Challenge Airmen with the opportunity of off-duty education after they are duty-qualified and have proven themselves competent. This will not only benefit the Air Force, but will make Airmen more productive because they are doing something for themselves. With formal education, their thinking becomes clearer and their ability to communicate is enhanced, often times reducing the workload of the supervisor. I don't mean do the supervisor's work. Even if they make a career out of the Air Force, at some point they will need to close that chapter in their lives and walk into the civilian world. What a great feeling it is to know you've helped them along the way.

Troops also need discipline. When most people hear the word discipline, they immediately think of the old sergeant chewing out a troop or Airman Smith standing in front of the commander's desk receiving some form of administrative action. Unfortunately, there are times when these things are necessary, and these actions aren't taken lightly. These actions can often be avoided if supervisors are actively engaged with their troops and encourage conduct that warrants rewards instead of punishment.

The side of discipline that goes unnoticed is the reinforcement or reward side. It doesn't take a lot of

time to give a deserving Airman a pat on the back, type a quick thank you note or letter of appreciation, or say thanks for a job well done in front of their peers and supervisors. Little things, such as these, are money in the bank for the leader who recognizes the individual's efforts and sets a marvelous example for the Air Force.

As Airmen grow, they need opportunities to enhance their skills. They need to be allowed to stumble, but not fall. Some experiences are best learned from failure and serve as a test of character. This is a fine line that supervisors need to monitor. Supervisors do not necessarily have to be right over the shoulder, but close enough to step in if things start to go off course or situations move too fast for the troop.

Experience is the best teacher; troops learn what to do and what not to do. Give them the opportunity to succeed. Even if they fail, they should have learned something that makes them a little smarter and little more prepared for the next time. No leader or supervisor has gotten where they are by being perfect.

Education, discipline and opportunities are all important, but to make sure Airmen understand the path, they need a map. They need role models. Often the role model is the immediate supervisor or trainer, but this is only the tip of the iceberg. Granted, supervisors may spend more time with the individual, but anyone who has more rank or time in the service automatically becomes a role model, and that's not always the best thing.

Positive role models are vital not only for the Air Force to complete its mission, but also to set the tone of what is expected from troops as they grow into the Air Force family. Supervisors and leaders need to set a positive example because the higher we move up the chain of command, the more we are looked at.

United States Air Forces Europe Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman told a group of new chief master sergeant selects: "Welcome to the top one percent. You are now living in a fish bowl. People will be watching you just to see what you do. They don't mean to, but they do. Because of the stripes you wear, you are the 'know all' of everything in the Air Force, and what you say and do will be considered gospel to some."


In a nutshell, there are good role models and bad ones; both can be positive learning experiences for the new Airman. They learn what not to do from the bad role models, and from the good ones, they learn to do what is right.

So, what does taking care of your troops mean to you?

COMMANDER'S CORNER

We have a lot to celebrate at Team Dyess these days. All across the base, in every group and at every level, Team Dyess professionals are winning Numbered Air Force, Major Command, Air Force and DoD-level awards and recognition. The warrior ethic and supreme dedication of all of Team Dyess has resulted in an unprecedented number of award winners.

All of us can be proud of our winners; but, most importantly, you should all be proud of what each of you do every day for Team Dyess, our Air Force and our great nation. All around the world, Team Dyess warriors are successfully accomplishing our number one priority, our number one mission ... hunting down and destroying America's enemies. You and your families are the best, and you prove it every day. Thanks for all you do!



Col. Garrett Harencak
7th Bomb Wing commander

Staying ahead of the competition

Commentary by Maj. David Wiesner
317th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

The National Football League playoffs, the Superbowl ... You may wonder what those subjects have to do with the profession of arms, but let me challenge you to change your normal way of thinking for a few moments to consider the discussion presented in this article.

The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, "There is nothing permanent except change." Just as the manufacturer of the latest gadget must keep improving its product to remain profitable and competitive in an ever-increasing world marketplace, how successful do you think Sony would be today if they just kept producing their original Walkman? They'd probably be out of business. The same can be said for your favorite professional football team that must adjust its tactics on the playing field each game to adapt to the ever-changing conditions offered by their opponent to be successful. They can't use the same cookie-cutter approach each time to emerge as the victor. The most successful teams surprise its opponents with new and innovative plays that catch them off guard and put them at a disadvantage. So we must, as Airmen, be constantly looking to improve the way we conduct our daily business in getting the mission done, and always be ready for change if we are to remain the world's

premier Air and Space Force.

Along this line of thinking is what has led us as an Air Force, and a military, to move away from being heavily postured to engage our Warsaw Pact enemy in nuclear combat to today's light and lethal expeditionary nature. This governs the way we perform our daily operations, deployments and employment of our forces around the globe, by which we support many operations, all varied in their nature. It is that very spirit and innovation that has led us to revolutionize the way we fight our enemy and conduct our everyday execution of the mission. We've gone from using Cold War-era bombers to provide close air support with guided munitions after having received target information from a Global Positioning System to relay precise coordinates with a cell phone to efficiently streamlining many of our aircraft maintenance and logistics processes.

It is this thought process today that is taking the logistics community by storm. You may have heard of the terms "LEAN" and "transformation"; to be sure, we are not returning to the Quality Air Force days of the mid-90s. Several large civilian companies have implemented this way of thinking into their everyday operations to do "the mission" better, cheaper and more efficiently than their competition. In the Air Force, our heavy maintenance aircraft depots have implemented these management philosophies into their daily operations with great

success returning a much higher quality product to the customer in a much shorter period of time, thereby enhancing the combat readiness and effectiveness of the unit. Here at Dyess, both Bomber Phase and the C-130 Isochronal process have benefited significantly from the LEAN initiatives that have been put in place, ideas that were submitted by the folks who knew which ideas made their processes far better and gave the best payback.

During the Civil War, the decision time for commanders was measured in weeks; during World War II, it was measured in days, and during Desert Storm, it was measured in hours. Today, that decision time for a commander fighting a battle is measured in minutes or even seconds. With today's rapidly advancing technology, our tactics and the way we execute the mission everyday must meet this stringent new standard. A former group commander of mine used to tell us, "If we're not moving forward, we're backing up." Our enemies are cunning and always looking for ways to gain the upper hand in conflicts against us. We must not let ourselves get lazy and accept the status quo because we've always been the best; we must continue to improvise, adapt and overcome by always looking for a better way to accomplish the mission before us, to always remain ahead of the competition ... our Air Force and our nation demand it.

TEAM DYESS

FOD Fighter of the Week

Staff Sgt. Aldrin Abegania




Photo courtesy of Senior Airman Oscar Lamas

Staff Sgt. Aldrin Abegania, 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron instrument flight control craftsman, preformed a foreign-object-debris walk on the B-1 parking ramp and discovered two auxiliary power unit trailer adapters. His actions eliminated possible FOD damage to aircraft.

Dyess Global Warrior

Editorial staff

Col. Garrett Harencak..... 7th Bomb Wing commander

Capt. Paula Bissonette..... Chief, Public Affairs

2nd Lt. Elizabeth Campanile Managing Editor

Senior Airman James Schenck Staff writer

Airman 1st Class Carolyn Viss Staff writer

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Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs office at 466 5th St., Dyess Air Force Base, Texas 79607 or e-mailed to globalwarrior@dyess.af.mil. For more information, call 325-696-4300.

Aircrews get SERE refresher

By Senior Airman James Schenck
7th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Being shot down behind enemy lines can make for good movie material, but for pilots, it’s a real possibility and something that requires preparation.

Five Dyess aircrew members were given training for just such a situation Jan. 19th at Lake Abilene.

“I take the possibility of being shot down very seriously,” said Capt. Ben McKenzie, 39th Airlift Squadron pilot.

Both B-1 and C-130 crewmembers participated in hands-on training to enhance skills that could keep them alive if they are ever shot down or forced to survive in an austere environment.

The course taught here is not the full-blown survival, evasion, rescue and escape training. It’s a refresher course that is required for aircrew members every three years or once per assignment, said Tech. Sgt. Ryan Sterling, 7th Operational Support Squadron SERE specialist.

The two-day refresher course involves one day in the classroom and one in the field at Lake Abilene where students learn and practice survival skills.

After a full day in the classroom Jan. 18, Sergeant Sterling conducted the hands-on portion of the training with the help of Staff Sgt. Bilse Schopfer, 317th Operations Support Squadron aircrew life support.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Ryan Summers

Technical Sgt. Ryan Sterling, 7th Operational Support Squadron SERE specialist, teaches students techniques for pinpointing their location on a map Jan. 19 at Lake Abilene as (left to right) Capt. Benjamin McKenzie, 39th Airlift Squadron, Capt. Matt Grimes, 9th Bomb Squadron, and Capt. William Alcorn, 9th Bomb Squadron, look on.

Students went over everything from initial parachute landing all the way to guiding in an airplane by radio.

They taught students how to, use lines of position, orient and locate themselves on a map using just a compass and what surroundings they could see.

In addition, the students learned about traveling through a potentially hostile area using concealment, hand signals and slow, controlled movement.

Other practical skills students were taught include some basic

Not long into the break, two Taylor County Sheriffs’ deputies arrived with trained police K-9s.

The students got a taste of what they would be up against when deputies Troy Henderson and Gary Kalmus gave their briefing about real-world K-9 evasion.

Just before dusk, the students were broken up into two teams and given the chance to put what they were taught to use. They recieved both a separate meeting time and location, and they were sent in different directions for the rendezvous point.

The teams were given a 15-minute head start before the sheriffs and dogs started after them.

Since the students had more than an hour before they were supposed to be at the rendezvous point, they could not go straight there. They were instructed to move through the area without being caught by the dogs or the search party, using the techniques they had learned.

One team was caught by the K-9 unit, but was allowed to go on to the rescue point.

Toward the end of the exercise the sun had gone down and what little light remained forced the use of a night vision monocular to navigate effectively. Both teams did manage to reach the destination at the assigned times and were picked up by the simulated rescue party.

The unique Texas landscape also played a role. The landscape may be dissimilar to the rest of

the world, but the techniques are similar for all types of terrain.

“It’s very realistic training,” Sergeant Schopfer said. “The environment changes, but the knowledge stays the same.”

To illustrate this, Sergeant Sterling spoke about tactics used in the arctic as well as the desert such as camouflaging footprints.

“(The training) is definitely applicable due to the many different locations the Air Force is operating in,” said Sergeant Sterling.

Along with the general refresher training, Sergeant Sterling went over current procedures in deployed areas. He said, for instance, it’s standard practice to put tape over the contacts of radio batteries; however, people run into problems if they are unaware of the procedure and do not remove the tape.

“Without the skills taught and trained by our SERE instructors, the chances of survival after a crash would be minimal,” Captain McKenzie said.

“This training has value even as a career continues,” Sergeant Schopfer said. “It goes with you.”


The Dyess SERE refresher course trains about 125 aircrew members each year.

Accomplishing the training requires the support not only of the base SERE and aircrew life support specialists, but also the Taylor County Sheriff’s office, as well as the Civil Air Patrol which allows students to practice guiding planes, flown by CAP volunteers, to their position for rescue.

Congrats to Dyess’s new Dental Corps promotion selectees


The following captains were selected for major:

Laura Baber
Kristen Solis-Tyler
Evelyn Stender



The following major was selected for lieutenant colonel:

Monica Johnson



MUNS dominates BW/MSS 52-33

By 1st Lt. Aaron Hochman-Zimmerman
7th Bomb Wing Protocol

The 7th Bomb Wing/7th Mission Support Squadron team played hard, but needed more than hustle to beat the 7th Munitions Squadron.

The luck was with MUNS during their 52-33 victory in the 30-and-over basketball league Tuesday.

“Since the tourney, we had a long layoff. We had a little rust,” MUNS coach Ricky Youngblood said of his team, referring to the pre-season tournament.

“We missed a lot of lay-ups; the guys were a little tired, (but) we’ve got our game back. They’ve got their legs back under ‘em,” he said before the game.

Gaymon James, BW/MSS coach, said his team's offensive play had improved in recent games.

“We've got more outside shooting,” he said. “I know they've got strong outside shooting. We'll go with man-to-man.”

BW/MSS held their ground in the paint, and did what they could to limit MUNS scoring. BW/MSS moved quickly across court, but stagnated around the arc. They had few openings for passes, and took unreliable shots. They were able to earn a few extra chances to put points on the board with some offensive rebounding, but their shots continued to miss and rattle out.

Corey Forshee laid it in for BW/MSS’ first field goal with over 13 minutes gone in the first half making the score 15-4 MUNS.

MUNS persisted in using their size to ring up as much as an 18-point lead in the first half.

“Hey, we’ve got to attack the basket. We can't fall back,” Forshee told BW/MSS during a first-half timeout.

“We’re holding the ball too long. Move around, set

a pick or something, just move,” Belgrave Millington added.

Gaymon James hit a three in the closing seconds of the half to leave his team with a 29-14 deficit to conquer.

“We're still in there,” James said at halftime as he caught his breath. “We’re trying to go inside. Something’s gotta fall. They got too many rebounds, we’ve got to pack it in,” he said.

MUNS kept their almost 20-point lead for most of the second half; but the play became faster and less organized. More fast breaks, turnovers and mishandled passes, on both sides, were obvious.

The fast breaks partially took the game away from the big men and let BW/MSS’ speed give them a few more chances at lay-ups and shots inside the arc.

Throughout the game, the MUNS big men were the most dangerous group on the court at either end.

“They’ve got two of the best post players in the league,” Forshee admitted after the game.

On offense, they took the higher percentage shots from the paint and forced BW/MSS to keep the ball farther away from the basket.

BW/MSS’ shooting was not enough to match the inside play of MUNS.

MUNS’ Jewell Moore gave credit to the bench.

“They came in with extra on defense. The pressure from the bench sped it up and gave us the victory,” he said.

“I think we didn't give it our best effort ... we started rushing our shots,” Forshee said of the BW/MSS team. “They're the best team in the league, but we can beat them. We’re gonna beat them.”



Photo by Airman 1st class Ryan Summers

Corey Forshee pulls down a daring rebound in a losing effort for the 7th Bomb Wing/7th Mission Support Squadron team in Tuesday's basketball game against the 7th Munitions Squadron.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Alan Garrison

TEAM DYESS

Warrior of the Week

Senior Airman MJ Villa

Unit: 9th Bomb Squadron
Job title: Client support administrator
Job description: Maintains the computer systems and electronic media that provide immediate, front-line support to the 9th BS commander and its members.
Time in the Air Force: Four years
Time at Dyess: One year, five months
Hometown: Agat, Guam
Most rewarding job aspect: I am the “go-to” person in my squadron. I work directly for Lt. Col. Robert Maness, 9th BS commander, and I know he relies on me and believes I have the dedication to get the job done.
Career goals: To get my bachelor’s degree in information systems management and work for the Air Force engineering and technical services in Florida.
What you like most about Dyess: All of my superiors have really made an incredible impact on my career and my life. They’ve shown me the Air Force in a different light and have given me the motivation and guidance to make me strive for more. They have truly been an inspiration in my life.
What you like most about the Air Force: The capability to travel where others are not able to, meet various people from many different cultures, and experience the Air Force in all it’s diversity.
What is your best Air Force memory: When we deployed to Southeast Asia and my boss let me pre-flight a B-1 with a crew. Having me go out and experience it firsthand has given me a newfound respect for the aircrew and what they do in times of war.
(Editor’s note: The Dyess Warrior of the Week is selected by unit commanders, first sergeants or supervisors on a rotating basis.)

News Briefs

Legal office closure

The Dyess Legal Office will be closed today due to the 12th Air Force Judge Advocate visit.
For more information, call the legal office at 696-2232.

Healthy Weight campaign

The Health and Wellness Center is scheduled to be at the base commissary today from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to give out information on healthy foods as part of National Healthy Weight Week.
In addition, the Defense Commissary Agency is starting the “It’s Your Choice, Make It Healthy” campaign.
The campaign includes shelf-talkers, which are currently installed and used to inform shoppers about choosing healthy foods.

Comedy bash

The Airman’s Advisory Council is scheduled to host a comedy bash Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Heritage Club.
Cost is \$10 for Airmen, \$15 for NCOs and \$20 for all others.
For more information, call Senior Airman Shannon Perron at 696-4520.

Dental volunteer program

The dental volunteer program is open to all non-active duty personnel, family members and civilians. Prior experience is not necessary to apply.
This program, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, encourages and allows volunteers to work in the dental clinic.
One of the objectives of this program is to train volunteers to become chair-side dental assistants.
Full-time training for entry-level volunteers who want to learn dental assisting skills is six and a half months long
Training involves one month of classroom education, followed by on-the-job training, and solo assisting training in the general dentistry department.
For more information, people may call Master Sgt. Jose Lopez at 696-2304 or email joseg.lopez@dyess.af.mil for applications. Applications must be submitted by close of business Tuesday.

SARC open house

The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator programs office is scheduled to hold an open house Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. in its new office, room 213/215 in the education building located at 425 3rd St.
Colonel Robert McCormick, the 7th Bomb Wing vice commander, is scheduled to give opening remarks.
For more information, call Staci Vileta at 696-5499 or 696-8811.
The SARC 24-Hour Response Line number is 518-1802.

Space-available travel

The following flights are currently available for space-available travel:
• Monday, takes off at 7 a.m. to Lawson Army Air Field, Ga.; returns Thursday.
• Feb. 3, takes off at 8 a.m. to Kelly Air Force Base, Texas; returns Feb. 3 at 3:10 p.m.
• Feb. 3, takes off at 8 a.m. to Buckley AFB, Colo.; returns Feb. 5.
All flights are subject to changes or cancellations without prior notice.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Anthony Nelson

Former President visits Airmen

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) — Former President George H. W. Bush, meets Dyess Airman 1st Class Joseph Smigielski (center), deployed from the 317th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, during Mr. Bush’s visit to a deployed location in Southwest Asia Jan. 18. Mr. Bush shakes hands with Airman 1st Class Christopher Trotter who is deployed from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

cellation without prior notice. Show time for all flights is two hours prior to scheduled take-off time. All travelers must show their military identification card plus one additional form of ID. Active duty travelers must possess valid leave orders. The passenger terminal is at Bldg. 4112, Avenue A3.
For all flights scheduled during non-duty hours, travelers must coordinate with the pax terminal by calling 696-4505 or 696-8732.

Annual awards banquet

The annual awards banquet is scheduled for Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. at the Abilene Civic Center. Mess dress or semiformal uniform is required. The cost is \$17 per person.
Meal options are Chicken Georgia and London broil or a vegetarian plate.
Meal choices and money must be turned in to first sergeants no later than today. Airmen may call their first sergeants for more information.

Cultural foods taste fest

Members from the Dyess community will be offering free samples of cultural food Feb. 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Hanger Center ballroom as part of Black History Month in February.
For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Robert Scarlett at 696-4780.

Military appreciation day

Downtown Abilene businesses are coming together Feb. 4 to thank Abilene-area military personnel and their families.

Military appreciation day is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. in downtown Abilene. The day will include free admission to select venues and family activities. Active duty, Reserve and National Guard personnel and their family members are invited to attend with a valid military identification card.
The following businesses are offering free admission and/or activities to military guests: Abilene Philharmonic, Abilene Public Library, Center for Contemporary Arts, Frontier Texas and The Grace Museum.
For more information, call Dan Carpenter at 673-4587 or email marketing@thegracemuseum.org.

Tax software available

Turbo Tax has been made available to service members at no cost by the Department of Defense. It is available on the internet via the following website <http://www.militaryonesource.com/>.

Tax center hours

The tax center is scheduled to begin taking customers Feb. 6 on a walk-in-only basis. Hours are Mondays and Wednesdays - Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Anyone with a valid military or civil government identification card is eligible for this free service. Customers should bring all tax paperwork and their social security cards with them.

People who have purchased new cars (2005) should bring their paperwork with them. No childcare service is provided, and parents are discouraged from bringing their children due to limited space. The tax center is located at Bldg. 7235, 366 3rd St.
For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Billy Shearer at 696-1761.
Anyone interested in volunteering to aid in providing tax service may call the base legal office at 696-2232.

Men’s varsity softball tryouts

All Dyess personnel, including dependents, are welcome to tryout for the Dyess mens varsity softball team. Tryouts are scheduled for Feb. 11 and 12 from noon to 4 p.m. at the base softball field. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Allen Oldfather at 696-4481.

Chief’s Group scholarship

The Chief’s Group is accepting applications for scholarships. The three categories are as follows:
• A graduating high school student who is a dependent son or daughter of an active-duty servicemember assigned to Dyess or a dependent of a retired or deceased military member,
• A dependent spouse of an active-duty military member assigned to Dyess who is currently attending or is accepted at a college or university,
• A child who is currently enrolled in a college or university and is a dependent of an active-duty member assigned to Dyess or a dependent of a retired or deceased military member.
Applications may be obtained from high school counselors, the Family Support Center or any active-duty chief. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, and mailed to Dyess Chief’s Group, Scholarship Chairman, P.O. Box 9785, Dyess AFB, TX 79607-0785.

Tops in Blue visits Abilene

Tops in Blue is scheduled to perform “And The Beat Goes On” Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Abilene Civic Center. The event is free, and tickets are not required.
For more information, call Willie Cooper at 696-4305.

MOAA scholarship

The Military Officers Association of America has opened the 2006 scholarship application season. This association awards up to 25 applicants grants of \$1,000.
Applicants must be the child of a servicemember, a high school senior or college student working on their first undergraduate degree, under the age of 24, and planning to attend an accredited college or university as a full-time student in Fall 2006. Winners will be randomly selected. To apply, visit www.moaa.org. Deadline for online entries is March 1 by 11 a.m.
For more information, call Trey Linnemeier at 703-549-2311 or edasist@moaa.org.

Dyess Chapel



Nursery and children’s church are available at all services. For information on Jewish services, call Maj. Matt Paskin at 696-1530. For information about other services, call the chapel at 696-4224.

Catholic worship schedule:

Saturday: Reconciliation — 4 p.m.
Mass — 5 p.m.
Sunday: Mass — 9 a.m.
Monday — Thursday: Mass — 11:30 a.m.

Protestant worship schedule:

Sunday: Traditional worship service — 11 a.m.
Gospel service — 12:30 p.m.

Jewish services: For information on upcoming services, please call Maj. Matt Paskin at 696-1530.



The Dyess Theater is located next to the main exchange. Patrons must have a valid identification card and may sponsor guests.
Admission for adults is \$3, children 6-12 years old are \$1.50 and children ages 6 and younger are admitted free. Admission for G-rated movies is \$1.50 for children between the ages 2-12.
For more information, call the base theater at 696-4320.

Today at 7 p.m.

The Family Stone — *Dermot Mulroney, Diane Keaton*
At the Stones’s annual holiday gathering, the eldest son brings his new girlfriend home to meet his family during which relationships will unravel while new ones are formed. Secrets will be revealed and the Stone family will come together.
Rated PG-13 (sexual content, drug references) 102 min.
Saturday, Sunday at 2 p.m.

The Chronicles of Narnia — *Tilda Swinton, Georgie Henley*
Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy are sent to the country and find a magic wardrobe that transports them to the mystical world of Narnia. The kids must help the lion, Aslan, break the evil White Witch spell and return Narnia to greatness.
Rated PG (battle sequences, frightening moments) 125 min.
Saturday at 7 p.m.

Pride & Prejudice — *Keira Knightley, Matthew MacFayden*
In 18th century England, the five Bennet sisters are raised with their mother’s fixation on finding them husbands and securing set futures. Encouraged by her doting father, spirited and intelligent Elizabeth strives to live her life with a broader perspective.
Rated PG (mild thematic elements) 128 min.

Flight

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if there really were cops out there, ready to pounce if someone crossed the red line in the wrong spot.

Murmurings of “Is this right?” and “Do you think we can keep going?” filled the otherwise silent expanse.

When they’d finally crossed the few yards between the ECP and the plane, the ladies climbed the steep steps, ducked through the low door, and buckled up for all the pre-flight inspections and instructions.

The crew chief explained the concept of the “honey bucket,” a five-gallon bucket that served as the aircraft latrine.

“Hope you all used the bathroom before you boarded,” he said as he laughed in their direction.

Michelle Craven and Jackie Rickman, two crew chief spouses, looked fairly disgusted by the thought of using a bucket for personal relief, with only a thin sheet for privacy.

“I guess the men have it a little easier,” Mrs. Craven remarked.

Nevertheless, they were good sports about the whole ordeal.

“Am I excited?” she asked. “Yeah. Nervous, though. I don’t love to fly.” She laughed. “I’m just doing it to see what it’s like. My husband said it’s loud and bumpy. He got sick once.”

Airsickness wasn’t a bit of a concern for Emanuelle Neumann, however. Her husband is a French exchange pilot for the C-130, and she’s had the opportunity to fly

with him as a flight nurse in five countries’ defense aircraft.

“I’ve never gotten sick,” she said, as she adjusted the settings on her digital camera.

As the propellers started, the wait for take-off seemed to last forever.

“This is like the longest drum-roll in history,” Rebecca Keller, wife of a C-130 pilot, remarked. “I sure hope they shut those back doors before we take off.”

The ladies exchanged sticks of gum (“to keep your ears from popping,” Mrs. Rickman explained) just before the plane lurched forward and began taxiing down the runway.

Although the weather was perfect for flying, with no wind and balmy temperatures, tensions ran high. A few of the women never got quite settled. They gripped each others’ arms and tried to talk to each other, straining to hear over the loud propellers.

“These aren’t like commercial flights,” Mrs. Rickman shouted. “These aren’t pressurized cabins with noise barriers and climate controls.”

They were almost a mile high over the ground by then, enjoying a great view of Abilene, West Texas and the base. They filed into the cockpit one at a time for a view of the Big Country before the pilot demonstrated a low approach maneuver.

Although the pass was something very common to any C-130 crew member, it was less than thrilling to more than one woman.

Out came the barf bags. It was like a scene from a la mas class, with heavy breathing and low, comforting murmuring.

The aircrew kept the flight mercifully smooth, but most of the women seemed



Photo by Airman 1st Class Carolyn Viss

Melanie Swartz, Linda Brown and Michelle Craven, 317th Airlift Group servicemembers spouses, buckle up tightly for a flight in a C-130 Saturday. The 317th Airlift Group hosted the Family Day event, which included the orientation flight, movies, barbecue and K-9 and fire department demonstrations.

quite relieved when the flight made its final descent and landed smoothly.

“I don’t think I’ll ever do that again.” Melanie Swartz exclaimed. “I mean, it was a good experience, but ...”

And she left the rest of her sentence to the imagination of the woman behind her, who had gone white and been trembling for most of the flight.

Although the flight had brought mixed emotions from the passengers, most of them agreed with Mrs. Swartz that it was a worthwhile trip.

“This event was a home run,” Colonel

Flint said. “The turnout was excellent. The weather couldn’t have been better, and the airplane worked great. I am proud of Capt. David Witt, the aircraft commander, and his entire crew for being such great representatives of our combat crews. I also want to thank the maintainers of the 317th AG who launched and recovered our bird. They did an outstanding job.

“We ask a great deal of military members and their families,” Colonel Flint said. “Programs like this one help us raise awareness and understanding. I am proud to be a part of it.”

Combat

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Although security forces have claimed the base defense mission since the 1960s, it has always been considered an Army responsibility. In 1985, this was formalized when the Army became officially responsible for defense “outside the wire” of a fixed base. It was an unwritten understanding that Air Force security forces would stay inside the base perimeter. This looked fine on paper, but faced numerous challenges in application, which endured through the Cold War and into the 1990s.

During Operation Desert Storm, the lines of battle were fairly well defined with major combat at the “front” and air bases supposedly tucked safely in the rear area. The first widely-publicized indications that the enemy

was changing tactics was seen during the attack on Khobar Towers, but the full impact of these changes weren’t fully exposed until operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. In combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, our bases are not always in the rear and the enemy has attacked us from all sides with relative impunity, just like at Balad. The world in which we conduct Air Force operations is changing, and we need to adapt.

Early last year, when previous Air Force and Army agreements were dissolved, the Air Force was left with a tough problem: while security forces are eager to fight outside the wire, most are untested in the combat environment

experienced by TF 1041. This situation is exacerbated by the fact that security forces are spread

“The Air Force needs to truly embrace the ‘every Airman is a warrior’ culture and enlist the whole force in defending an air base much like Sailors do an aircraft carrier in the Navy.”

Col. Brad Spacy
Security Forces and Force Protection Headquarters

thin conducting security missions and other tasks throughout the theater. This is where Security Forces Transformation comes in.

Security Forces Transformation will help the Air Force deliberately embrace the air base defense mission by addressing requirements in all areas, from doctrine to training and equipping, and even leader-

ship preparation. Security Forces Transformation will also re-tool the organizational structure to ensure we have the number of troops available to take the fight to the enemy outside the wire. However, air base defense is a tough mission, and security forces can’t do it alone. Effective air base defense requires an integrated approach.

The Air Force needs to truly embrace the “every Airman is a warrior” culture and enlist the whole force in defending an air base much like Sailors do an aircraft carrier in the Navy. All Airmen must be trained and equipped to man “battle stations,” and leaders must be prepared to lead them in the ground fight. Security forces might be the ones outside the wire, but the whole Air Force team will have to ensure the base remains protected from penetrative attacks and insider threats, and be ready to respond when called upon. This is the reality of the world today.

I knew when I designed Operation Desert Safeside that the only way to stop the enemy from attacking our air bases was to go out and kill or capture them and take their weapons. I knew that security forces had the skills and courage to take on this mission and make it a success. The brave men and women of TF 1041 proved this to be true in a dramatic fashion. Operation Desert Safeside provides a look at the future of Air Force ground combat, and Security Forces Transformation is the key to ensuring we’re all ready to protect and defend.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Alan Garrison

Combat-ready Airmen

Senior Airman Adriana Alvarez, 7th Civil Engineer Squadron, aims her M-16 while guarding a convoy during an operational readiness exercise here Jan. 10.

Gibson

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a chance to meet with and interact with many folks ranging from Air Combat Command, the Pentagon and Space Command. Through my relationship with the squadron and the base, I got to know particular issues that went beyond Dyess.”

“He’s been a wonderful friend,” Lt. Col. Jeff Taliaferro, 28th BS commander, said of Mr. Gibson. “Both he and his wife, Lauris, have been wonderful friends to both my wife and me, and to the squadron as a whole.”

Colonel Taliaferro spoke highly of the honorary commander position.

“The role of the honorary commander is primarily to establish community between the city of Abilene and the military members,” he said. “The honorary commander (also) provides a level of friendship with the mili-

tary commander and is a wonderful source of experience, (as well as) an additional view point and a fresh look at questions facing the military commander – anything from personnel to resource management to meeting the mission.”

“My contribution is minimal, in my opinion,” Mr. Gibson said of this job at the squadron. “Our goal – and my wife has been involved as well – is to make the folks at the 28th feel comfortable in Abilene and to know that we support and appreciate them.

“Our standpoint is that they’re welcome in our home any time. They’ve welcomed us into the squadron, and we want to reciprocate that. Hopefully, they feel like part of our family.”

Mr. Gibson said he will work

for the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), Tina Jonas, whose goal is “to make the Department of Defense a more efficient business.”

“I don’t think the desire to

“He has earned a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to join the office of the secretary of defense and make a significant difference in government and military transformation.”

Lt. Col. Jeff Taliaferro
28th Bomb Squadron commander

transform the Department of Defense is driven by the assumption that it’s broken,” Mr. Gibson said. “I think it’s driven by the question, ‘Are we being as efficient as we can be?’ We will be evaluating a lot of the internal policies and procedures.”

“As an example, information

starts out in the field, and by the time it gets into the system it’s been touched four or five times,” Mr. Gibson said. “If there are ways to reduce that handling then we’ve made it more efficient.

We’ve freed up resources to do something else.”

With DK Consulting of Abilene, Mr. Gibson has dealt with financial, operating and management issues which arise in the private sector. “I think it’s

those experiences and skill sets that are of interest to (the Pentagon),” he said. “We’ve been involved in workouts and turn-arounds, improving business practices, and procedures in a number of companies,” Mr. Gibson said.

The most significant qualifica-

McMurry

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a major, “We can put together a major through our interdisciplinary studies courses and tailor it to fit (Airmen’s) needs,” Dr. Russell said.

But they don’t stop with flexible degree programs. They also work with deployed Airmen, he said.

“(We have) students taking general education classes in Iraq and Afghanistan as we speak,” Dr. Russell said. “(Our) accommodating relationship works for both of us. We want to help young Airmen succeed. The fact that that kid in Kirkuk or Kabul can still get his degree ... that’s what makes this (relationship) enduring.”

Colonel Harencak agreed, remarking on how much McMurry has evolved over time to meet the needs of the Air Force.

McMurry now offers 16 courses on Dyess and has more than 100 Airmen enrolled, Doctor Russell said. He also boasted of the Blue Streak program, which offers all of the general education courses Airmen need to get the Community College of the Air Force associates’ degree.

At the end of the program, in order to show appreciation for all that McMurry has done for Dyess, Colonel Harencak presented Doctor Russell with a plaque and certificate, along with a flag which Dyess flew over Afghanistan in McMurry’s honor.

“It’s been a great 45 years,” the colonel said, “and we look forward to 45 more years of partnership with McMurry University.”

Mr. Gibson brings to his new job, in his own opinion, is experience from the private sector and another viewpoint.

“I know, I personally, will not have all the answers, but I hope that I can be a part of facilitating and working to bring the resources together so that we come up with a solution and get it done.”

“He has earned a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to join the office of the secretary of defense and make a significant difference in government and military transformation,” Colonel Taliaferro said.

Mr. Gibson will be replaced as 28th BS honorary commander by John Brogan, president of Telecom Unlimited of Abilene. Mr. Brogan is also an active member of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. Mr. Brogan will join Jack North, who is a longtime honorary commander of the 28th BS.